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05:00AM America In The Morning with Jim Bohannon

06:00AM KPUA Morning News with anchor Ken Hupp

09:00AM Community Forum

10:00AM Rush Limbaugh

01:00PM Dr. Dean Edell

02:00PM Dateline: Washington

03:00PM Sporting News with Arnie Spanier

03:58PM [Major League Baseball San Francisco Giants](#) vs [Philadelphia Phillies](#)

07:00PM Coast to Coast

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Hilo, Hawaii News, Sports, & Information

Wed



HAWAII NEWS

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Posted: Wednesday, May 12th, 2004 11:25 AM HST

Aiona urges continued vigilance against underage drinking

By Ken Hupp - 67AM KPUA News

(Ken Hupp - KPUA) Lieutenant Governor James "Duke" Aiona today said he's concerned we may be losing sight of the impact underage drinking is having on our youth.



Aiona, who recently attended the "Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free" conference in Dallas said 280 youngsters between the ages of 6 and 12 in Ohio are currently receiving intensive treatment for alcohol impairment.

During Governor Linda Lingle's weekly radio show, heard live on KPUA, Aiona said the most recent survey of sixth graders in 2002 reveals it's a big problem in Hawai'i as well.

"There's only two schools, two public schools in the sixth grade where they report they have never used alcohol," Aiona said. "Only two schools out of I believe, its about eighty. Sixty to eighty schools. And that's pretty alarming. That's pretty shocking."

Aiona said underage drinking is a big national problem,

noting alcohol has a significant impact on the brain's development between the ages of 10 and 21. He said its important to remain vigilant about combating underage drinking as more and more attention and resources are devoted to the war on ice.

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